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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/605,598	10/10/2003	Johan Hulten	00173.0043.PCUS00	2597

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TRACY W. DRUCE, ESQ.
1496 EVANS FARM DR
MCLEAN, VA 22101

EXAMINER

BUTLER, DOUGLAS C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3683

DATE MAILED: 04/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n N .

10/605,598

Applicant(s)

HULTEN ET AL.

Examiner

Douglas C. Butler

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Detailed Action

1. The submitted Search Report (Forum 210) and examiner obtained Form 409 have been considered. The examiner disagrees with the conclusions reached.
2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
3. In the claims (e.g. claim 2, line 1) "the" before "said brake" should be deleted. Similar changes should be made where necessary.
4. Instant Figs. 1-5 appear to be "Prior Art".
5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daghighi et al (5568846) in view of Tasker et al (5855416) further in view of Cooper et al (WO 99/19525) and Wirth (DE 4133593) or Kappich (DE 19507102) and the two Math Forum articles.

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The claims are directed to, inter alia, essentially the ratio between the radius of a brake rotor and the radial extent or length of a braking lining for a disk brake.

It would have been obvious to modify the disk brake of Dagb et al to be ^{used} ~~used~~ with heavy vehicles having an axle pressure between 6 and 14 tons, or whatever, desired as taught by Tasker et al at column 5, line 60 to column 6, line 7 in that the particular load or pressure at the axles is typical for a ^{heavy} ~~heavy~~ truck and is based upon the load that he artisan intends to carry. As to the material of the disk brake rotor being "cast iron alloy", it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to select the material as per Cooper since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416.

Re the particular recognition by applicant that correlating the ratio between the brake lining extent or length and the radius of the brake rotor is significant, each one of the references to Wirth and Kappich recognizes the relationship and its significance. See MPEP 2144.05 under the heading "Only Result-Effective Variables Can Be Optimized". It appears that the ratio is a result-effective variable which when optimized achieves a desired result of at least reduced vibration or resonance. It would have been obvious to modify Dagb et al as modified by routine experimentation to optimize the ratio of B/R , ^{as per Wirth or Kappich,} the brake torque, modulus of elasticity and any variety of parameters typically known, calculated or estimated by a brake artisan to arrive at the most suitable disc brake for the environment and application at hand with reduced vibration.

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See MPEP 2144.05 under "Optimization". Also, see MPEP 2144.04 under "Changes in Size/Proportion".

The instant specification describes a series of tests and observations but fails to present any statement or evidence that the claimed selections are critical. Note that the radial extent of the brake lining is a function of the arc or circumferential extent which is taught by Wirth and Kappich and as supported by the attached Math Forum @ Drexel articles (pages 1-10, 1-3).

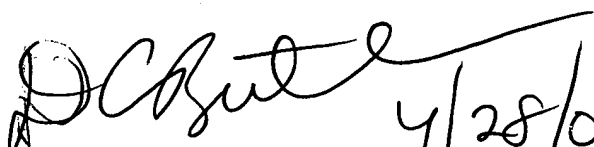
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Butler whose telephone number is (703) 308-2575. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Lavinder, can be reached on (703) 308-3421. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Butler/vs
April 26, 2004


DOUGLAS C. BUTLER
PRIMARY EXAMINER
4/28/04
AU3683